

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 01661 032018Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 /018 W

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R 031235Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3779

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 1661

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN, IN

SUBJECT: VISIT TO INDIA BY PMA DELEGATION

REF: BOMBAY 0248

1. AS WE HAVE NOTED EARLIER, IN OUR VIEW THERE IS LITTLE TO BE GAINED FROM A BALL VISIT. HOWEVER, THIS IS A DECISION THE PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURERS WILL HAVE TO MAKE FOR THEMSELVES.

2. WIEN DID NOT COME TO THE DELHI MEETING. WE HAVE TALKED TO THE ONLY PHARMACEUTICAL OFFICIAL FROM THE US WHO DID ATTEND, WILLIAM TREHARNE, VICE PRESIDENT, PUBLIC AFFAIRS, PFIZER. HE ALSO APPEARS DUBIOUS ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY OF A BALL MISSION. IN ADDITION TO MEETINGS THAT FICCI IS ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE WITH M. G. KAUL AND FERNANDES FOR THE JBC, WE SUGGESTED THAT TREHARNE MEET SEPARATELY WITH MINISTER SETHI AND FERNANDES FOR A GENERAL REVIEW. HE DECLINED TO DO SO UNTIL HE TALKED TO PILLAI IN BOMBAY AFTER THE JBC MEETINGS.

3. OUR RECOMMENDATION IS THAT WE STAY OUT OF THIS ONE FROM NOW ON WHILE MAINTAINING OUR OFFER TO ASSIST INDIVIDUAL FIRMS AND INDUSTRY AS A WHOLE IN ANY WAY WE CAN. WE CONTINUE TO THINK THAT THE FOREIGN PRINCIPALS SHOULD BE DOING MORE TALKING INDIVIDUALLY TO THE MINISTRY PARTICULARLY AT THIS TIME WHEN THE GUIDELINES FOR EQUITY PARTICIPATION BY FOREIGN FIRMS ARE BEING DETERMINED. OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THE

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 01661 032018Z

MINISTRY HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY THE FERA COMMITTEE TO DRAW UP

THESE GUIDELINES WITHIN THE NEXT MONTH.
SAXBE

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